

REMARKS

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for receiving the telephone calls on September 12, 13, and 17, 2007, for assessing the status of the claims once the Examiner's claim objections, the sole issue in the case, are resolved. The undersigned appreciates the Examiner's courteousness and professionalism.

Claims 1-24 and 26-70 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 26-30 are amended to correct typographical errors. There are no prior art rejections.

In response to Examiner's objections, the claims have been amended in a manner believed fully responsive to all points raised by the Examiner, thereby to pass all of the claims to allowance. No new matter has been added.

It is noted that any claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability.

Further, it is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

IV. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-24 and 26-70, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully submitted,



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